

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

At a Regular Term of the Supreme Court of Appeals, continued and held at Charleston, Kanawha County, on September 18, 2019, the following order was made and entered:

In the Matter of: Janine Lea Varner
Magistrate of Ohio County

No. 19-0817

ORDER

On September 16, 2019, Judicial Disciplinary Counsel Teresa A. Tarr, presented to the Court a Motion to Suspend Without Pay and Memorandum Report in accordance with Rule 2.14 of the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure, asserting that the respondent, Janine Lea Varner, has engaged or is currently engaging in a serious violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

Having maturely considered the report pursuant to Rule 2.14(c) of the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure, the Court is of the opinion that there is probable cause to believe that Janine Lea Varner has engaged or is currently engaged in a serious violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct.

Therefore, pursuant to Rule 2.14(d)(2) of the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure, it is **ORDERED** that the respondent, Janine Lea Varner, shall be, and she hereby is, suspended without pay, and is prohibited from hearing any further civil or criminal matter or performing any other judicial functions during the pendency of the disciplinary matter. The respondent is hereby notified of the right to request a hearing on the issue of her suspension pursuant to Rule 2.14(c) of the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure and Article VIII, Section 8 of the Constitution of West Virginia. Any request for a hearing must be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court within thirty days of the date of this order.

It is further **ORDERED** that this matter is remanded to the Judicial Investigation Commission for the filing of formal charges and proceedings pursuant to Rule 2.7(d) and 4 of the Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure. Finally, it is **ORDERED** that the Motion to Suspend

Without Pay and Memorandum Report shall remain SEALED until such time as a Formal Statement of Charges has been filed and duly served upon the respondent.

Service of an attested copy of this order upon the respondent shall constitute sufficient notice of its contents.

A True Copy

Attest: /s/ Edythe Nash Gaiser
Clerk of Court

